

Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 601

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 8373

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJ: CWR DAP EXERCISE - IVORY COAST

REF: (A) STATE 225967; (B) STATE 225127; (C) STATE 209207

(D) ABIDJAN 8177; (E) ABIDJAN 7764; (F) STATE 225975

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN PLEASED TO SEE AID'S RECOGNITION OF NEED TO ADDRESS PROBLEMS OF SAHEL-SUDANO REGION AS A WHOLE (REF(F) AND OF IMPORTANCE COASTAL STATES PLAY IN THE PROGRESS OF POORER INTERIOR COUNTIES, PARTICULARLY IN KEY SECTORS OF LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURE. WHILE WE ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORT THE FUNDAMENTAL GOAL OUTLINED REF (C) OF CLOSING THE FOOD GAP IN THE REGION WITH MAXIMUM CONCENTRATION ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY, PARAS 5.C AND D REF (A) APPEAR INCONSISTENT WITH RESPONSE TO THAT OVERALL GOAL, IN THAT AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SECTORS HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN EXCLUDED FROM TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COASTAL STATES. IF, AS IS STATED, COASTAL STATES ARE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SELECTIVE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE, EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES THAT TEAM'S MANDATE INCLUDE LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURE SECTORS. HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES SECTORS HAVE FAR LOWER PRIORITY HERE US ASSISTANCE. FOR SOME TIME NOW, WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH GOIC ON AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN PRODUCTION (SEE REF (D). THESE SECTORS OCCUPY THE THE PRIORITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTEREST OF GOIC AT THIS TIME AND HAVE THE GREATEST SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP TO IVORY COAST'S POORER NEIGHBORS. FINALLY, IT IS WITHIN THESE SECTORS THAT THE MOST FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS ARE LIKELY

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TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN TEAM

MEMBERS AND GOIC OFFICIALS.

2. EMBASSY CONCURS NOV 15-22 SCHEDULE FOR SUB-TEAM II OF ENTENTE AREA DAP TEAM WILL ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE MEETINGS WITH APPROPRIATE GOIC OFFICIALS DURING THAT TIME PERIOD SO TEAM MEMBERS CAN ALSO PARTICIPATE SELECTIVELY IN ENTENTE AGRICULTURE MINISTERS MEETINGS PER REF (B). EMBASSY/REDSO WILL COORDINATE WITH EF AND ADVISE SPECIFIC DATES FOR THAT PARTICIPATION.

3. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST MAKEUP AND NAMES OF SUB-TEAM I. AS SOON AS RECEIVED, EMBASSY WILL BEGIN MAKING APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS. UNLESS ADVISED OTHERWISE, WE WILL ASSUME THAT TERMS OF REFERENCE WILL INCLUDE AGRICULTURE/LIVESTOCK AND WILL MAKE APPOINTMENTS ACCORDINGLY.

4. PLEASE ADVISE TEAM'S HOTEL PREFERENCE. SINCE PER PARA 5.D REF (A) TEAM WISHES TO COMPLETE SOME PREPARATION SECTOR ASSESSMENTS IN ABIDJAN, ASSUME APPROPRIATE WORKING SPACE AND SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE MAY BE NEEDED. IF SO, PLEASE ADVISE FISCAL DATA AND EMBASSY/REDSO WILL

MAKE ARRANGEMENTS.
SMITH

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